

Message Text

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66

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 NEA-10 SY-10 EB-11 OMB-01 AID-20

RSR-01 /177 W

----- 117624

R 172230Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3747

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 3545

E.O. 11652 - N/A

TAGS: PINT, ES

SUBJECT: INDEPENDENCE DAY ACTIVITIES

1. TRADITIONAL SEPTEMBER 15 INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS
FEATURED USUAL MILITARY PARADE (BUT NO FAS FLYOVER) AND
SPEECH BY PRESIDENT MOLINA. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OFFERED
NOTHING UNEXPECTED AS MOLINA TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRY
TO CALM FEARS OF THOSE WORRIED ABOUT HIS REFORM PROGRAMS
AS WELL AS TO IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE HONDURAS/EL
SALVADOR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. HE DESCRIBED HIS GOVERNMENT'S
DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AS AN "ACCELERATING MOVEMENT, WITHOUT
VIOLENCE", CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE CONSTITUTIONAL FRAME-
WORK. HE CONTENDED THAT THESE WERE NOT AIMED AT HARMING
THE INTERESTS OF ANY PARTICULAR SECTOR BUT SOUGHT TO
IMPROVE THE WELL-BEING OF THE ENTIRE "SALVADORAN FAMILY".
REFERRING TO HIS SEPTEMBER 1 MEETING WITH GENERAL
LOPEZ ARELLANO, MOLINA STATED HE HAD "THE GREAT
OPPORTUNITY OF SHAKING THE HAND" OF THE HONDURAN CHIEF
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OF STATE AND THAT THEY HAD DISCUSSED THE PROSPECTS FOR

BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. (THIS REFERENCE TO THE SUMMIT MEETING BROUGHT THE ONLY SPONTANEOUS APPLAUSE FROM THE CROWD DURING HIS SPEECH).

2. DESPITE THE USUAL JITTERS AMONG THE SECURITY FORCES ABOUT POSSIBLE ATTEMPTS BY EXTREMISTS TO UPSET THE CEREMONIES, THE DAY PASSED PEACEFULLY WITH ONLY A FEW PRO-ALLENDE PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS FOUND DOWNTOWN. HOWEVER, A HOME MADE BOMB WAS DISCOVERED BESIDE THE ITT BUILDING IN THE SUBURBS EARLY IN THE MORNING OF THE 15TH. THE BOMB, MADE OF THE SAME MATERIALS AS THE DEVICES FOUND AT THE PRESIDENTE THEATER LAST NOVEMBER, WAS IMPROPERLY MADE AND ONLY ITS DETONATOR EXPLODED.
MOSKOWITZ

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30 JUN 2005

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